



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Federal Subsistence Board Meeting Advisory



Forest Service

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Contact:
Deborah Coble
(907) 786-3880 or (800) 478-1456
Deborah_Coble@fws.gov

Public Hearing to be held on Temporary Special Action Request to close the Dall sheep hunt in Unit 23 for conservation concerns

A public meeting will be held in Kotzebue from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 14 at the Northwest Arctic Heritage Center to discuss and provide comment on a Temporary Special Action Request to close the Dall sheep hunt on Federal public lands in Unit 23 and Unit 26A, that portion west of Howard Pass and the Etivluk River, due to conservation concerns. Currently, one sheep is allowed by registration permit from August 10 to April 30.

Results from the most recent survey conducted June 30 to July 6, 2014 indicate a population decline of 50-75 percent compared to the previous survey conducted in 2011. Conservation concerns have led to this request for a temporary special action. If adopted, this action would close the Dall sheep hunt for the remainder of the 2014-2015 regulatory year. The State of Alaska has already closed its hunts for sheep in Unit 23 and 26A – the DeLong Mountains area.

At this meeting, the public will have an opportunity to provide testimony and comments to National Park Service staff and representatives of the Federal Subsistence Management Program as part of the decision-making process. To comment, the public can either participate in person or via teleconference at (866) 560-5984, entering passcode 12960066. Comments will be summarized and provided to the Federal Subsistence Board for its consideration on the special action request.

For more information on this action, contact Chris McKee (907) 786-3572 or (800) 478-1456 paul_mckee@fws.gov. Information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program can be found at <http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/index.cfm>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, close captioning, or other accommodation needs to Thomas Evans by any of the means above and Alaska Relay (for hearing impaired individuals) at 1-800-770-8255.

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